

Child Care and COVID-19

- [General Information](#)
- [Information for Families](#)
- [Information for Child Care Providers](#)
- [June 1 – Child Care in Phase 1](#)
- [June 15 – Child Care in Phase 2](#)

Critical Service to Delawareans

We thank our child care providers for their dedication to Delaware's children, and their efforts to keep children and staff safe during this time. (Child Care Providers – [apply for enhanced reimbursement](#)).

We are currently in Phase 2 of Delaware's economic reopening plan. **In Phase 2, all Delaware families are eligible to access child care.** All licensed child care providers can reopen in Phase 2, provided they follow applicable DELACARE regulations as well [as additional health and safety requirements](#) developed by the Office of Child Care Licensing and the Division of

Public Health. Child care providers who wish to reopen on or after June 15 *do not* need to be designated as an Emergency Child Care Site.

Enhanced Reimbursement Information for June:

- Facilities that were open in Phase 1 will continue to get their enhanced reimbursement at the normal rate and using the previously established formula.
- Facilities that were closed for Phase 1 that are reopening will receive enhanced reimbursement for the first part of June based on their status for Phase 1 and the second part of June based on their status for Phase 2. Please note: June applications must be submitted with the site's status for Phase 1. The system will automatically calculate assuming an open status for Phase 2, and manual adjustments will be made through confirmation calls for any sites that did not open during the last two weeks of June to reflect the ongoing closed status. Programs may receive different amounts of enhanced reimbursement for the month of June depending on their status.
- Facilities that are staying closed for Phase 2 will receive enhanced reimbursement based on their status as either paying staff or not paying staff. **Effective July 1, enhanced reimbursement will no longer be paid to child care facilities that remain closed.**

The purpose of the funding is to help child care facilities to continue to pay staff and purchase supplies to meet the additional restrictions and requirements.

Emergency Child Care Options

If you are a worker who is eligible for emergency child care, enter your home or work address to see what emergency child care options are available near you. You can find options within 10 miles of your specific location. You can search for

providers by using the magnifying glass at the top left side of the map. This map will be updated on a rolling basis as emergency sites are approved.

Resources

Steps Providers Can Take to Prepare for COVID-19

These are recommendations from Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families with guidance from Delaware Division of Public Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- Share information with parents and staff about steps to protect themselves and keep others safe. Communicate regularly.
- Know the symptoms of coronavirus.
- Monitor for illness and temperatures. Ask parents to check their child's temperature before coming to child

- care. Have staff monitor their temperature before coming to work. If the temperature is at or above 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit, the child or staff member should stay home.
- Strictly enforce the provider's illness policy for both children and staff.
 - Encourage staff and children to stay home when sick.
 - Develop a process to identify and act on sending children and staff home if sick.
 - Separate sick students and adults from others until they can go home.
 - Keep a log of children and adults who are absent.
 - Collect contact information, including phone numbers, to coordinate pick up for children if they are sick.
 - Increase handwashing procedures throughout the day for staff and children. Use soap and water and scrub vigorously for at least 20 seconds.
 - Rigorously implement cleaning for toys and surfaces, including tables, shelves, trash cans, sinks, door knobs and other materials available to staff and children. Regularly launder soft items such as bedding and clothing.
 - Remind staff and children to avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
 - Encourage social distancing in all aspects of child care. For example:
 - Curbside drop off and pick up
 - Ask caregivers to not bring in toys and other items from home, unless necessary
 - When planning activities practice social distancing, such as space between children during activities, if possible.
 - Increase the frequency of cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting child care spaces.
 - Continually review and update plans.